incurred as a result of the fire to the Port installation is estimated to be in the region of about Rs. 15 lakhs. Enquiry report has just been received and the question of fixing responsibility is being examined.

(d) The procedures for enforcing prevention of pollution and fire fighting are being further tightened in order to ensure that the port remains fully prepared at all times to meet any such accident.

Complaint registered against VHP in Delhi

275. SHRI VITHAL BHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a complaint has been registered against the leaders of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad in Delhi for instigating speeches delivered by them;

(b) if so, what are the details of the complaint registered by the police against the leaders of the V.H.P. in Delhi;

(c) what are the names of the persons of the V.H.P. who are figure in the FIR; and

(d) whether any charge-sheet has been submitted by the Police against the leaders of the V.H.P., if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) According to Delhi Police, some V.H.P. leaders and others has raised objectionable slogans and made inflammatory speeches. As a sequel to this, case FIR No. 139 dated 15-7-90 u/s 153-A/295-P. Police Station, Town Hall, FIR No. 152/90 u/s 295-A/153-A IPC Police Station Keshav Puram and FIR No. 215 dated 25-6-90 u/s 153-A/295-A IPC Police Station Parliament Street, New Delhi, have been registered against them.

(d) No, Sir.

Pending applications for telephone connection in Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Surat and Rajkot

276. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of applications are pending for telephone connection in the city of Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Surat and Rajkot in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the number of applications pending in all these four cities for telephone connection till date; and

(c) by when these applicants are likely to be provided telephone connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b) The number of applicants who are in the waiting list as on 30-6-90 is as under:

Ahmedabad	28125
Vadodara	22241
Rajkot	4861
Surat	36192

(c) These applicants are likely to be provided with telephone connections progressively during 8th plan period (1990-95).

Need of new National Highways

277. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the need for construction of some more National Highways due to increasing frequency of vehicles and traffic in some of the National Highways for diversion of traffic destined for small distances;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have conducted any study for construction of some new National Highways;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) by when Government propose to construct new National Highways to meet the demand of the people?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. To meet the increase in demand of traffic, the National Highways are widened keeping the availability of funds in view.

(c) and (d) There is no study conducted for additions to the National Highway System. However, some of the Committees set up by the Government have suggested some roads to be declared as National Highways.

(e) General decision for the declaration of new National Highways would be taken after the finalisation of the 8th Five Year Plan.

Extension of STD facilities to the towns with more than one lakh population

278. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the areas|towns with population of more than one lakh have not yet been extended S.T.D. facilities;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the criteria for extension of STD facilities to the towns|cities at present;

(d) whether Government propose to cover almost all areas|towns with the population of more than one lakh with STD facilities; and

(e) if so, by what time this objective will be achieved by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Only thirteen towns out of the total 214 with a population of more than one lakh have not been provided with STD facility.

(b) (i) Non-availability of equipment for automatisation.

(ii) Non-availability of transmission media.

(c) The following priorities have been set out for the provision of STD facility during the 8th Plan period.

(i) Provide STD facility to those DHQs which have spilled over from the 7th Plan period.

(ii) All sub divisional headquarters equivalent Tehsil|Block Development headquarters.

(iii) All telephone exchanges of capacity 500 lines and above as on 1-4-90.

(iv) All tourist centres, industrial growth centres, pilgrim centres.

(v) Other automatic exchanges subject to feasibility.

(d) The remaining 13 such stations are also covered for the provision of STD facility in the light of the norms mentioned at 'C' above.

(e) By the end of the 8th Plan period.

Censorship on video news magazines

279. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that video news magazines are censored by Government;

(b) if so. what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government discriminates between the video news magazines and other news magazines covering the same